

IAP11 Rec'd PCT/PTO 14 JUL 2006

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re application of	)	Group Art Unit:
	)	
Holger RATZ	)	Examiner:
Rudolf STÄB	)	
	)	
Application No. : TBD	)	
	)	
Filed : July 14, 2006	)	
	)	
FOR: : FOLDING APPARATUS	)	

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, and with MPEP Section 609, the materials set forth on the enclosed form PTO/SB/08a are brought to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the non-U.S. patent documents are enclosed. Copies of the U.S. patent documents are not enclosed.

Each of the documents cited in the International Search Report, which is part of the published PCT application WO 2005/068335 A1, is listed on the PTO/SB/08a form.

DE 197 16 625 is accompanied by an English language abstract which was obtained from a commercial database.

U.S. patent Nos. 6,358,192; 5,494,270; 4,974,822; 6,093,139 and 6,652,437 are all in the English language. No discussion thereof is required.

The several documents cited in the specification of the subject application, and

not discussed above, are also listed on the PTO/SB/08a form.

EP 0 931 748 is accompanied by an English language abstract which was obtained from a commercial database.

DE 42 29 059 corresponds to U.S. patent No. 5,484,379.

Several additional documents were brought to the attention of the undersigned by applicants' principal representatives in Germany, without comment. These are also listed on the PTO/SB/08a form.

DE 198 57 507 corresponds to U.S. patent No. 6,159,138.

DE 101 55 037 corresponds to U.S. patent No. 6,605,027.


DE 43 16 134 corresponds to U.S. patent No. 5,494,270.

Entry of these materials into the file of the subject U.S. patent application, and their consideration by the Examiner, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Holger RATZ  
Rudolf STÄB  
Applicants

JONES, TULLAR & COOPER, P.C.  
Attorneys for Applicant

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Douglas R. Hanscom  
Reg. No. 26, 600

July 14, 2006  
JONES, TULLAR & COOPER, P.C.  
P.O. Box 2266 Eads Station  
Arlington, Virginia 22202  
(703) 415-1500  
Attorney Docket: W1.2271 PCT-US

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

### Complete if Known

Application Number	TBD
Filing Date	07/14/2006
First Named Inventor	Holger RATZ
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	W1.2271 PCT-US

### U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	US- 6,652,437	11/25/2003	Bergeron et al.	
	2	US- 6,605,027	08/12/2003	Cloutier et al.	
	3	US- 6,358,192	03/19/2002	Michalik	
	4	US- 6,159,138	12/12/2000	Lanvin et al.	
	5	US- 6,093,139	07/25/2000	Belanger	
	6	US- 5,494,270	02/27/1996	Laubscher	
	7	US- 5,484,379	01/16/1996	Stab	
	8	US- 4,974,822	12/04/1990	Richter	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
	1	DE 198 57 507 A1	07/29/1999	Lanvin et al.		
	2	DE 197 16 625 A1	11/05/1998	Michalik		
	3	DE 101 55 037 A1	08/01/2002	Cloutier et al.		
	4	DE 43 16 134 C2	03/13/1997	Laubscher		
	5	DE 42 29 059	03/03/1994	Stab		

Examiner  
Signature

Date  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

### Complete if Known

Application Number	TBD
Filing Date	07/14/2006
First Named Inventor	Holger RATZ
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	W1.2271 PCT-US

Sheet 2 of 2

### U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
	6	EP 0 931 748 B1	01/13/1999	Lanvin et al.		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.